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LETTER DATED 28 MAY 1993 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In the statement issued by the President of the Security Council on 22 May 1993 relating to the activities of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) (S/25822), the Council took note of the preliminary report by the Secretariat on the shelling that had taken place on 21 May 1993 in Kompong Cham Province and requested me to investigate the incident further and to report urgently to the Council.

The information contained in this letter is submitted in response to that request and is based on reports of investigations undertaken by UNTAC including by its Strategic Investigation Team.

On 21 May 1993 at about 11.30 p.m. local time, approximately 15-20 members of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK), the forces of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea (PDK), attacked a police position of the party of the State of Cambodia (SOC) which is located directly south and about 150 metres from the position of a Chinese Engineer Company in Skon village in Kompong Cham Province. Small arms and rockets were used in the attack. SOC police retaliated immediately using small arms, mortars and rockets.

Three rockets were fired by NADK from approximately 100 to 150 metres further south of the SOC position. The first of these, probably a B40.5 rocket, overshot the SOC position and went through an open window of one of the barracks of the Chinese company, which was located in the line of fire. One Chinese soldier was killed instantly. Another suffered serious injuries and died about two and a half hours later. Seven other soldiers were injured. All of the injured soldiers were evacuated to Phnom Penh. A sentry of the Chinese company observed the other two rockets overshoot both the SOC position and the Chinese camp and fall into a pond at the rear of the barracks. The exchanges of fire between NADK and SOC police lasted approximately 45 minutes before NADK withdrew to the south.

Following investigations by the Strategic Investigation Team, UNTAC has confirmed its initial finding that it is unlikely that the Chinese company was the intended target of the attack; one section of the Chinese company is located

east of the SOC police position and closer to the source of fire but this section was not hit. UNTAC's assessment is that a rocket aimed at the SOC police position hit the Chinese camp due to inaccuracy of fire and the location of the camp which is in the same line of fire as the SOC position.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI